



NITE-TIMES NEWS

CHICAGO AREA TIMEX USERS GROUP

Chicago Area Timex Users Group
Volume 9, Number 3

Downers Grove, Illinois
May/June 1995

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C.A.T.U.G. CLUB OFFICERS

Here is the list of 1995 club officers and how to contact them. Our club has three strong SIGS, TS2068, Z88 and QL. If you have questions about either of these fine machines, or even the ZX81/TS1000/TS1500, call one of the officers. C=312, S=708.

POSITION	NAME	PHONE	PRIMARY FUNCTION
President	Nazir Pashtoon	S439-1679	The buck stops here...
Vice-President	Steve Cooper	S968-3553	Meeting Planning, etc.
Secretary	Larry Sauter	C763-5383	Records and Reporting
Treasurer	Phil Kwitkowski	S584-6710	Dues and Purchasing
Editor	Bob Swoger	S576-8068	Newsletter, BBS, etc.

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Volume 9, Number 3

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May/June 1995

Nite-Times Information

The **Nite-Times News** is the newsletter of the Chicago Area Timex Users Group. For an annual fee of \$12.00 you can become a CATUG member and receive six newsletters each year. Write your check payable to:

**PHIL KWITKOWSKI
2106 DOVER LN
ST CHARLES IL 60174**

The Chicago Area Timex Users Group is pleased to exchange newsletters with other Timex and Sinclair supporting user groups at no charge. Send all newsletter requests to:

**CATUG EDITOR BOB SWOGER
613 PARKSIDE CIRCLE
STREAMWOOD IL 60107-1647**

If you desire to reprint any articles that appear here, please provide credit to the author and this newsletter.

We encourage your user group to copy this newsletter and distribute it at your regular meetings to your members free of any charge as we believe that this will encourage better meeting attendance. If you are a user group that feels as we do, please let us know in your newsletter so that we might do this for our members and keep our attendance up.

Articles originating from our group may be downloaded from our BBS and reprinted.

CLUB MEETINGS

The Chicago Area Timex Users Group meets on the **THIRD** Saturday of each month at the home of our meeting coordinator Steve Cooper in Downers Grove, Illinois from 1:00 to 5:00 PM. Steve's home is lovingly called the **CLUB HOUSE** and is located at 1300 Maple Street in Downers Grove just 2 blocks southwest of the Downers Grove Public

Library. Steve should always be contacted evenings at 708/968-3553 to confirm the meeting schedule.

CONTRIBUTORS TO THIS ISSUE

**John Donaldson
Phillip Kwitkowski
Larry Sauter
Bob Swoger, K9WVY**

TREASURY NOTES

The balance as of July 1, 1995 is \$475.98 Our current paid membership stands at 19.

Frank Mills, Treasurer
Chicago Area Timex Users Group

SECRETARY'S NotePad

May 20, 1995

Members present: Bobby Muth, Nazir Pashtoon, Bob Swoger, Phillip Kwitkowski, Cy Herre, Jeff DeCourtney, Larry Sauter, John Donaldson and Abed Kahale.

Meeting began at 2:26 P.M. Gary Lessenberry had to ship out on assignment and hopes to be back in June for the next meeting. He has 3 disk drives to sell Phillip and is interested in swapping 20 Meg hard drives with Bob.

We hope to see Steve Cooper at the next meeting. Jeff told us that this is his last meeting and we wished him all possible luck in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

There is at this time some 720K 3.5" floppy drives becoming available on the market at around \$15.00 which is a nice bargain. Several members have expressed interest in these drives. Nazir is going to make the buy. So far in our group Bob Swoger is the only one using a 3.5" on his TS2068. Les Cottrell is using one, Bob says. A TS2068 with a 3.5" 720 is like an IBM with a ZIP HARD DRIVE (with removable cartridges).

Bob finally got word through the mail from Mike Bower that requested a program from Bob for the 747 Flight Simulator. Mike's original request with check was accidentally lost at Bob's home. The order will now be filled. For some reason the 747 will only fly with the keyboard and would work a lot better with a Kempston joystick. Mike uses an Oliger interface which has a joystick port board.

Phillip the hacker has found a way to get the phone company to ring his phone and allow him to do DOS on his TS2068. Bob thinks Phil will be able to write an article about this trick for the ~~Nite-Times News~~ in the future. [The Past! Check out NTN V9N1. Ed.]

The meeting was adjourned at 3:43 P.M.

June 17, 1995

The meeting came to order at approximately 2:15 PM

Members present: Bob Swoger, Nazir Pashtoon, John Donaldson, Phil Kwitkowski, Abed Kahale, Larry Sauter and Steve Cooper.

We had a very informal meeting with no old or new business discussed.

Nazir brought in 'never before seen' Sinclair computers for examination. These included several versions of the Spectrum and the TC2068 from Portugal. He also showed us a TS2068 modified for a TI-99 keyboard from the seven articles we ran on the subject. We all examined them and had a little bit of a nostalgia trip courtesy of Nazir Pashtoon. This was of particular interest to our newer members.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:30 P.M.

Larry Sauter, Secretary
Chicago Area Timex Users Group

GATOR's TWISTED PAIR

!! SINCLAIR BBS!!
We have a 24 hour BBS and encourage you to exchange mail and contribute to the Download Section. Use it and have fun!!

Call 708-632-5558 and Register using your first name, last name and phone number along with a password you won't forget, and WRITE IT DOWN! Do not try to do anything else this first time because all the board options will be locked out.

When you call in the next day, you will have Level 5 security and be able to enjoy full user privileges. The BBS has subdivisions of smaller sections called conferences. Select 'J' for 'Join a Conference' to see the different user groups. Select 'TIMEX' to get into the Sinclair Section. The mail you then read there will only be from other TIMEX/Sinclair users but all SIGs share the same bulletins.

Bob Swoger, SYSop ----GATOR----
Chicago Area Timex Users Group

From the EDITOR'S Disk

I have noted as the years pass that Computer Fests are taking on an atmosphere of a "family reunion". I LIKE THAT! Tim Swenson and his wife add to the Dayton ComputerFest each year by providing a nice quiet place in their back yard with good food to eat and plenty of Sinclair users to meet.

Our John Donaldson and his wife Bobbie recently took a trip to see their first International QL Show and brought back pictures of people I hadn't met before. They didn't quite know what to expect, so when you read the following article, please keep in mind that John Donaldson has been around the likes of Al Feng and Bob Swoger, two real HARD SELLERS

at CATUG, for over eight years and you will understand how he was expecting to be (mis)TREATED! What John had gone down for was a Gold Card for his QL - John DID NOT return with one! Maybe next time, GUYS? But he didn't come back altogether empty handed.

Bob Swbger, Editor
Chicago Area Timex Users Group

ARTICLES

A DIFFERENT KIND OF SHOW

by
John Donaldson

There are computer shows and then there are computer shows. What is that supposed to mean? Well, let's begin with what I expect at a show. I expect dealers to figuratively grab me by the lapels and say something like, "Come here and see what I have that you simply can't do without" or "You know how long it takes to do thus and so with your present setup? Watch what this new software can do for you" or (preferably) "Here's a setup just like yours -- and here's what happens when you add this new gizmo. Ta-Dah!" In other words, I go to a show in anticipation that someone will want to impress me with their wares and their words. It's up to me to keep my wallet in my pocket, or not to, as I see fit. Mind you, I don't want to see unbridled hype at a computer show, either. But I do want fellow QL'ers to share what they've learned. And we came to learn!

The 3rd International QL Show at Oak Ridge, Tennessee was not that kind of show for me. Impressed by the fine newsletter/magazine put out by Bob Dyl and of its sponsorship by IQLR, my wife Bobbie and I attended the show. It was our first exposure to this event. As newcomers with new faces on the show scene, we figured to

be noticed by dealers and that they would be asking all sorts of questions, so as to match us up with software and hardware -- up to the limit of our credit cards, anyway. This did not happen.

There was something in the atmosphere that reminded us of a reunion in combination with an antique shop. There was a sort of "BROWSE AND WHEN YOU'RE READY, WE'LL TAKE YOUR ORDER" air to it. Perhaps others who attended went there intending to buy a certain item but I go expecting to be sold something. Can you see the difference? Bottom line: I spent only \$14 at the show after driving 1,800 miles round trip. Does this make any sense at all?

As for the reunion aspect, to be sure, it was SO GOOD to be able to put a face to the names we have known for so long. I took my video camera along to share with the CATUG members back home what we had seen at the show. (They made me show the tape three times!) And, certainly, the many door prizes livened things up from time to time.

It turns out that partly due to Bob Dyl's recent illness, the show might never have happened but for the good graces of Mel LaVerne and his lovely wife. They offered beautiful Oak Ridge as the venue. It also turned out that - to my surprise - the dealers made money. So much so that there will be even more of them at the 4th International QL Show!

The disquieting thing for me was that the emphasis seemed to be turned away from the QL and toward the QXL board for the PC and its compatibles! Indeed, there were QLs in evidence; there had to be. But I - and many like me - am not about to purchase a 386 or a 486 computer in order to buy and use a QXL board. Has the QL community made a Quantum Leap

from an affordable computer to a not-so-affordable computer? Have our gurus exhausted the design limits of the QL as originally conceived? Or is it simply the desire to be compatible with the ever-present PC that is driving everyone?

The trip after all was not a waist. Because of a couple of articles by Hugh Howie and a brief introduction to it on the night before the show, we made a detour to Peru, Indiana - AFTER the show - to buy a Z88 notebook computer which did empty my pockets! We have to agree with Hugh that it's a wonderful machine. But it's an adjunct to the QL, not a replacement. Now if I can only get it to handshake with my QL...

CHARACTER RECOGNITION for the TS2068?

by
Bob Swoger

Don Lambert, Chairman of the Timex Sinclair NorthAmerican User Groups, wrote recently to say that he wanted to make word processor files of LarKen disk CATALOGs. On only a few disks, he had trouble doing this using some sort of utility available in MSCRIPT.

I reminded him of a simple program available with the LogiCall ensemble that examines each point on the screen and creates a TASWORD TWO file with every character in exactly the same place as it was on the screen EVERY TIME! Using the SCREEN\$(x,y) function, each point on the TS2068 screen is parsed and the result poked into the appropriate location a TASWORD TWO file. Because TASWORD can append files to create one larger list, a catalog list can be made of all the disks in one library case.

Joyce Blaho had given me the idea for this utility when she told me of a user group member

who detested the retyping his program listings for use in the newsletter because of all the typing errors that would creep in. Since this utility places the screen characters into the TASWORD file exactly where they are located on the screen, the person typing the program into his computer can see every character and space so that his finished program will look just like the original programmers document.

This utility can recognize characters made up of fonts other than the standard Sinclair font provided the font is loaded into the TS2068 and the character set pointer is pointing to it as explained in the Timex Manual. How about that! Character recognition on the TS2068 years before it was available for the Macintosh and IBM? Well, I'd like to think so!

To use this utility, first put on your screen the portion of the document you wish to put into TASWORD. On the command line type: RUN USR 100: SAVE "SCREEN.CM" SCREEN\$ or simply press the LarKen NMI SAVE button followed by a press of the S key. Now run the \$C2TAS.B1 utility. This utility puts the SCREEN.CM file back up on the screen, parses it and creates a screen.CT file. After a short wait the program calls in TASWORD TWO. You will now find a file in your CATALOG called screen.CT. Call this file into TASWORD. If you are building a long list, save this file to disk using the filename of the final document. Repeat the above again but on successive calls of the screen.CT file into TASWORD load the document you are building first and then MERGE (append) the screen.CT file to it and re-save the entire file using the filename of the final document. The listing below was made using this procedure as was all listings of past issues of *Nite-Times News*.

```

10 REM SCREEN$ TO TASWORD TWO
   1996 by Bob Swoger V1.3
20 CLS : PRINT "'This program
   creates a screen.CTTASWORD 2 fi
le from a SCREEN.CM file provid
ed it contains only printabl
e characters.": PAUSE 1e3
30 RANDOMIZE USR 100: LOAD "SC
REEN.CM"SCREEN$
40 INPUT ;: PRINT #0; FLASH 1;
"Converting SCREEN$ to TASWORD 2
"
50 LET t=33280
60 FOR r=0 TO 21
70 FOR c=0 TO 31
80 POKE t,CODE SCREEN$ (r,c)
90 LET t=t+1
100 NEXT c
110 FOR t=t TO t+31 STEP 2
120 RANDOMIZE USR 100: POKE t,8
224
130 NEXT t
140 NEXT r
150 RANDOMIZE USR 100: SAVE "sc
reen.CT"CODE 33280,1408
160 RANDOMIZE USR 100: LOAD "TA
SWOR.BA"
9992 RANDOMIZE USR 100: SAVE "$C
2TAS.B1" LINE 20
9998 RANDOMIZE USR 100: LOAD "L.
B1"
9999 SAVE "$C2TAS.B1" LINE 20

```

ADS

To put an AD in the BBS and
newsletter, upload a file with
the filename.filetype:

FSxxx.ADS
where xxx is your initials.
!!! Our ADS are free !!!

Your ADS appear in FOUR
different newsletters!

FOR SALE 950627

1. HARDWARE: ZX-81 Computer,
TS-1000 Computer Case, ZX-16K
RAM (Qty 2), TS-1016 RAM Pack,
and TS-1000 Winky Board.
2. SOFTWARE ON CASSETTE:
Backgammon Frogger Word Sinc
States and Capitals
Total Triangles
Conversational Spanish
Conversational German
Conversational French
3. SCHEMATICS: TS1000 Computer
TS-1016 RAM Pack ZX-81 Computer

and ZX-16K RAM Pack.

=====

I would like to get \$20 for the
entire package, but, any offer
will be considered and probably
taken! Either leave email or
give me a call (708) 360-1549
if you're interested.

Gary Lessenberry

FOR SALE: 950503

Macintosh Software for sale:
Think Pascal 4.0 \$60
DiskTop 4.5\$10
Sensei Geometry\$10
Writer's Helper\$5
Destination Mars
(Educational Game)\$10
Spectre VR
(Networkable Tank warfare) \$10
El Fish (Aquarium Graphics) \$10
Tempo II (Macro Program) ...\$10
Tempo EZ (Tempo II Lite)\$5
Vantage
(Text Processor Desk acsry) . \$5
Contact:Doug Eaton 708-576-2116

FOR SALE 950501

MS-DOS/Windows items. All
items are in good working
order and include manuals and
disks.
Note: All disks and manuals are
originals and not pirated.

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Word Perfect 5.0 Terminal Plus
Global Domination Space 1889
Chess Master 4000 CA Realizer
Timeworks publish-it
Visual BASIC V1.0
Visual BASIC/Norton prog. srs
VB How-to vol. 1 & 2
Learn Programming w/VB
Programmers intro. to VB
ST:TNG Screen Saver
Sherlock Holmes detective
Games Platinum f/Windows
Untouchable /Windows anti-virus
Fastback Express f/Windows
Dark Queen Krynn Time 1990
Almanac Populous
QuickStart PC joystick
SEGA Genesis w/ 5 games
Windows resource kit
Time Table of arts & entert.
Time Works Multimedia Encyclop.
MS-Publisher Dungeon Master
Conflict (War Game)
Chess Master 2100 ...Best Offer
Call: Carl Daugherty

4630 Tacoma Avenue
Lorain, OH 44055
216-277-5881 w/Best offer

WANTED 950420

LarKen Disk Drive Interface for
the TS2068. Ferdinand Gunther
1307 Shaw, Moses Lake WA 98837

FOR SALE 950125

HARDWARE.....
COCO3 512K W/KEYBOARD EXTENDER
COCO3 128K BRAND NEW NEVER USED
RS-232 DELUXE MODEM PACK W/CBL
DUAL DISK DRIVES (5.25" & 3.5")
W/DISK DC-7 CONTROLLER
ADOS3 W/ORG. DISKS
SEGEATE 40 MEG H.D. W/ BURKE &
BURKE CONTROLLER (W/ CLOCK)
CASSETTE CCR-81 W/ CABLE

=====

ROM-PAKS. (UNLIKELY ANY MANUALS)
.CHESS..RAD WARRIOR..TYPEMATE..
.SPECTACULATOR..EDTASM+..TETRIS
.SOKO-BAN..DOWNLAND...ROBOCOP..
.SUPER PITFALL....DRAGON FIRE..
.THEDXER(2).....MIND ROLL..
.SPRINGTER..CASTLE OF THAROGGAO

=====

Deluxe JOYSTICKS (&SPARE PARTS)
HARDRIVE IS LOADED WITH MOST
HARDRIVE SOFTWARE LISTED ABOVE,
PLUS MOST 'MV' PATCHES APPLIED,
CONTAINS 'SHELLPLUS', PLUS MANY
DOWNLOADED SOFTWARE FROM
DELPHI... I AM NOT SURE IF
SELLING THE H.D. AS IS WOULD BE
IN VIOLATION OF COPYRIGHT LAWS.
IF SO, I WILL DELETE EVERYTHING
EXCEPT THE OS9, MV AND BOOT
SETUP.

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SOFTWARE.....
NOTE: THESE ARE ORIGINAL DISKS
(SOME WITH MANUALS)

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RS-DOS.....
TCE PROOFREADER....KIDS ON KEYS
TCE BUSINESS WRITER.....ADOS 3
EXTENDED ADOS3.....COLORSCAN
COCO MAC III W/COLOR DRIVER....
WARRIOR KING.....MINE RESCUE
SUPER TAPE/DISK TRANSFER..ROGUE
PRINT SPOOLER / ROMCRACK ..BASH
COLOR COMPUTER ARTIST..D.L.LOGO
LEISURE SUIT LARRY...SUB BATTLE
GHANA BWANA...MICRO ILLUSTRATOR
SHAMUS..CRYSTAL CITY..KIDWRITER
ALPHABET ZOO.....GOLDFINDER
DESERT RIDER.....UTILITIES DISK

MONEYOPOLY.....CARMEN SANDIEAGO
RAINBOW INDEXES (4 DISKS)..Z-89
MICKEY'S SPACE ADV.....DISKMAX
FRACTION FEVER.....SEASTALKER
MARTYS NIGHTMARE..KINGQUEST III
DISK UTIL 2.1
T&D DISK #46
T&D DISK #50
T&D DISK #55
T&D DISK #56
T&D DISK #58
T&D DISK #4 UTILITIES

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OS9.....
OS9 LEVEL II.....SHELLMATE
LEVEL 2 TOOLS.....TOOLS 2
MULTI-VIEW.....DESKMATE 1
ZCLOCK..QUICKLETTER..ICON BASIC
KRONIS RIFT..CYBERVOICE...M-RAM
HYPER I/O.....COCO XT-RTC
DONALD DUCK PLAYGROUND...XT-ROM

=====

MISC.....
COCO MAX II (NOT WORKING?)
MISC. ISSUES OF RAINBOW FROM
1983 TO PRESENT - MISC RAINBOW
BOOKS (OS9 & RSDOS)

=====

WILL SELL ALL AS A BUNCH OR
INDIVIDUALLY - - MAKE AN OFFER.
CASHIER'S CHECK ONLY.

=====

LEAVE MAIL ON DELPHI (RCPOLK)
Email rcpolk@delphi.com or
richp@comm.mot.com THANK-YOUC

FOR SALE 950123

Memotech 32K RAMPACK - great
shape used a couple times then
somehow my machine died - now
if you have a ZX81 or T/S-1000
that needs it ...

!!!!!!!!!!!!!! ALSO !!!!!!!!!!!!!!!
MemoCalc Spreadsheet Pack Great
shape and sill works. Want a
spreadsheet that's instant on?
Memocalc is for you! It'll use
whatever RAMPACK you have. This
is a great pair of products!
They both come with the little
booklet they give you with it.
I would like \$15 each or \$25
for BOTH! What a deal! Shipping
included!

D.G.Smith, R.415 Stone St.,
Johnstown PA 15906-1609
(814)535-6998. Thank you ;>

FOR SALE 950123

 I also have a 'sort of' working
 Atari 800XL with a DISK DRIVE!
 The keyboard needs to be fixed
 - when plugged in the computer
 is dead and when you unplug it
 it works (huh?) I've a small
 quantity of disks for above
 system and some parts that seem
 to go with it - make a
 reasonable offer above \$45 U-
 FIX and save [or send it to Dan
 Elliot and he'll fix it CHEAP!]
 D.G.Smith, R.415 Stone St.,
 Johnstown PA 15906-1609
 (814)535-6998. Thank you ;>

FOR SALE 950123

 Tandy CoCo1 with Extended BASIC
 and over 3 Dozen (Rainbow/Hot
 Coco or whatever) mags and some
 Disks with a disk interface
 that plugs into the cartridge
 slot. If have some tapes also
 and manuals and other assorted
 goodies. I'm looking for at
 least \$80 for ALL - I even have
 the color mouse and a hires
 interface as well as a Videotex
 cartridge.
 D.G.Smith, R.415 Stone St.,
 Johnstown PA 15906-1609
 (814)535-6998. Thank you ;>

WANTED: 950123

 Any screen dumps, drivers, or
 programs permitting the use of
 Radio Shack CGP-115 Color
 Graphic Printer (4-pen plotter)
 with the T/S 2068. Tape, JLO,
 or LarKen. ALSO: Looking for PC
 Magazine, Volume 3 Number 23
 Nov.27,1984?
 D.G.Smith, R.415 Stone St.,
 Johnstown PA 15906-1609
 (814)535-6998. Thank you ;>

FOR SALE 950103

 PACKARD BELL 486 DX24 20M HD
 3.5 FDD TAPE B/U 2X CDROM DRIVE
 MSMONEY MSWORKS \$1000 OBO
 DAVE 708-205-2843

FOR SALE 941205

 MAC Classic w/software w/Apple
 dot matrix printer. \$550
 David 708-381-6715

FOR SALE 950103

 486SX 25MHZ PC 170M HD 14" .28
 SVGA MONITOR 2M RAM 2400 MODEM
 SOUND BLASTER MOUSE WINDOWS 3.1
 DOS 6.2 3.5 & 5.25 FDD \$800
 PAUL 708-830-5177

FOR SALE 941205

 NEC Laptop w/ext FDD & RAM
 1S/1P port int MODEM built in
 WORDSTAR Spreadsheet Telecom
 S/W Lt wt - int monitor \$200
 OBO 708-359-7293

FOR SALE 941205

 286AT 1MB RAM 30 MB HD 360K &
 1.44 MEG FDDS MINI TOWER MODEM
 MOUSE 2S/1P ports DOS 6.2 &
 Windows 3.1 Lotus EGA \$450,
 mono #\ \$300 OBO 708-359-7293

FOR SALE 941205

 Hygain TH3 Jr Tri-band Beam
 w/balun & rotor exc condition
 \$175 OBO Dave 708-991-6810

FOR SALE 941107

 Zenith Easy-PC 20 mg hard drive
 B/W monitor 3 1/2" FDD easy to
 use. \$200 OB. 708-228-1042

FOR SALE 941107

 IBM XT Turbo 20mg HD 512K RAM
 VGA monitor w/Epson LQ-510 24
 pin printer US Robotics extrnl
 modem \$200 for all.
 708-726-0650

FOR SALE 941107

 Atari 800 48K + BASIC cart.
 FDD, interface module
 printer modem color monitor
 150+ game disks word processor
 4 joy sticks \$85 OBO
 Dan 708-359-7293

FOR SALE 941107

 IBM AT CLONE 40M HD mono VGA
 640K mouse 2400B modem 287 C\P,
 lots of s/w 360K & 1.4M FDD
 & more
 \$350 OBO Dan 708-359-7293